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(1841-1847). The correspondence was from the start actively conducted, two letters having been exchanged nearly every month. It began with expressions of fervent admiration on the part of Mill, and it was not until the exchange of thought degenerated into controversy that the zeal of the two philosophers abated. It throws a strong light on the character of the two men, and the gentleness and receptivity of Mill are sharply contrasted with the intellectual rigidity of Comte. Comte was relentless in the support of his system. Mill proposed that they discuss together their "opinions" on a certain point; Comte answered that he had no "opinions"; he had a body of doctrine, a system; it was the precise object of his philosophy to do away with "opinions." He could not understand how he could be led to "modify his opinion" upon any given point. All that he would admit was that his opinion could be proved incompatible with his system. That system he believed to be demonstrated beyond a doubt; his philosophy was a science; and with it his whole being was identified. He could not understand how his English friends could accept one part of it and reject another, and it was ultimately his greatest grief that his sociology, which to his mind was the flower of his doctrine, should have been the point of greatest dissent. He believed Mill to be an unqualified adherent of his doctrine, and when he discovered that he was not, his interest in him waned. Through Mill, he eventually received what he called his "English subsidy" (6000 fr.) from Grote, Sir William Molesworth, and Mr. Raikes Currie, and was astonished when at the end of a year it was not repeated. He could not understand how any person who accepted his philosophy and religion could refuse financial support for its propagation, especially when such a person were rich.

The picture here offered of the great French philosopher is a very fine one, and the portrayal of the character of the English thinker has also taken a pleasing form. The one was the incarnation of rigor, the other was the embodiment of intellectual hesitancy. Mill could not be got to adopt a definitive opinion; he was not disposed to sacrifice the least particle of truth for the sake of rigorous consistency. Professor Lévy-Bruhl has well characterised the two types. The march of the philosophical thought of Comte, he says, is comparable to a straight line; that of Mill is comparable to a sinuous curve which indicates at every point of its path the influence to which it has been subjected. At one time the curve approached very near to the straight line, but it afterwards veered widely from it.

This collection of letters traces an extremely interesting episode in the intellectual history of the nineteenth century. For social philosophy in particular it is of great importance, and the editor, Professor Lévy-Bruhl, is to be congratulated upon the service which he has rendered in publishing the volume. T. J. McC.

KLEINE MATHEMATISCHE BIBLIOTHEK AUS DER SAMMLUNG GÖSCHEN. Leipzig: G. J. Göschen'sche Verlagshandlung. 1898. Price, each volume, 20 cents.

A series of scientific and literary manuals is now being issued by Göschen of Leipzig, which deserves notice both from its remarkable cheapness and from the

intrinsic value of many of its numbers. The little volumes of the *Sammlung Götschen*, which vary in the number of their pages from one to three hundred, are bound in flexible covers of a size convenient for carrying in the pocket, and cost but eighty pfennigs, or twenty cents apiece. The ground covered by the series is a broad one, embracing nearly the whole of German literature, editions of the early and mediæval classics, the modern masterpieces, foreign histories, grammars, dictionaries, and so forth, and so forth. The sciences are well represented in manuals of astronomy, geology, mineralogy, physical geography, botany, zoölogy, chemistry, anthropology, and so forth. But the mathematical group is perhaps the most complete of all. It has been published under the editorial direction of Prof. Hermann Schubert, of Hamburg, a former contributor to *The Monist*, who has embodied his views on arithmetic and algebra in one of the first of the volumes, and has added to it in another a collection of examples. Professor Schubert has also compiled a *Table of Four-Place Logarithms* which is unique in the respect that it is printed in two colors, and that tables of anti-logarithms are given, which dispense with interpolation. Prof. G. Mahler has written the text-book of *Plane Geometry*, the diagrams of which are printed in double colors, red and black; Professor Bürklen has compiled the book of *Mathematical Formulæ*, running from arithmetic to the calculus; Dr. Sporer has written the *Niedere Analysis*, which contains the algebraical matter necessary to the introduction to the *Calculus*, which has been treated in two volumes by Dr. Junker. The two *Analytical Geometries* have been written by Dr. M. Simon, and the *Projective Geometry* by Dr. Doehle-mann. Three volumes on *Theoretical Physics* have been contributed by Dr. Jäger, of the University of Vienna; there are also manuals of perspective and drawing. The volumes, while not at all uniform as to their apparent purpose, method, or simplicity of presentation, are in the main to be commended. μ.

DIE ENERGETIK NACH IHRER GESCHICHTLICHEN ENTWICKELUNG. Von Dr. Georg Helm. Mit Figuren im Text. Leipzig: Verlag von Veit & Comp. 1898. Pages, 370+xii. Price, M. 8.60.

Dr. Georg Helm, professor in the Royal Technical Academy of Dresden, is well known in Germany in connexion with the recent developments of the doctrine of energy, and especially with the controversies which have arisen regarding this branch of general physical science. He is eminently fitted, therefore, for the production of a work of the present character, and every physicist and student of philosophy will find both the compilatory and original part of his work of value. It is a compendium both of the history and the methodology of the subject.

The book is divided into seven parts: the first deals with the history of the law of the conservation of energy in its earliest form, from the vague metaphysical ideas of the ancient Greeks down through the conceptions of the mathematical physicists of the eighteenth century to the enunciations of Robert Mayer and Helmholtz; the second deals with the work of Carnot, Clapeyron, and the prelim-